Amendment to and Listing of the Claims:

Please cancel claims 2, 4-5 and 8 without prejudice and amend claims 1, 3, 7, 9-18 and 20-21, wherein strikethrough indicates a deletion and underline indicates an addition, as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A panel for a fence having at least one hollow rail and a plurality of pickets supported by the rail, wherein the pickets enter the rail by passage through respective entry apertures in the rail, and ~~are fastened to the rail by fastening means located inside the rail~~ a portion of each picket located inside the rail is deformed to thereby prevent further passage of the pickets through their respective entry apertures.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) A panel for a fence according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the portion of each picket that has been deformed within the rail has a partly flattened shape that no longer matches the shape of the respective entry aperture in the rail.

4-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) A panel for a fence according to claim 1 wherein the pickets pass though only one side of the rail and end at an internal wall within the rail, end portions of the pickets being held in respective apertures of the internal wall.

7. (Currently Amended) A panel for a fence having at least one hollow rail and a plurality of pickets supported by the rail, wherein the rail has an external wall with entry apertures for the pickets, and an internal ~~structure~~ wall for holding end portions of the pickets, and wherein each picket enters the rail through a respective entry aperture and has an end portion which is held by ~~the internal structure~~ a corresponding holding aperture in the internal wall.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A [[fence]] panel according to claim [[8]] 7, wherein the holding apertures are aligned with the entry apertures so that the pickets are perpendicular to the rail.

10. (Currently Amended) A [[fence]] panel according to claim [[8]] 7, wherein the holding apertures are offset from the entry apertures so that the pickets are not perpendicular to the rail.

11. (Currently Amended) A [[fence]] panel according to claim [[9]] 7, wherein the internal ~~structure~~ wall is moveable within the rail to vary the alignment of the holding apertures and the entry apertures.

12. (Currently Amended) A [[fence]] panel according to claim [[7]] 4, wherein the holding apertures are formed by ~~internal structure includes~~ a plurality of flanges which receive end portions of respective pickets.

13. (Currently Amended) A [[fence]] panel according to claim [[7]] 4, wherein the pickets are fastened to the rail by ~~fastening means provided inside the rail, either a rod that connects the pickets within the rail or~~ a deformed portion of each picket within the rail.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a picket structure, including: providing a hollow rail to support a plurality of pickets, passing each picket at least partly through the rail, and fastening the pickets to the rail by movement of a fastening tool through ~~from within~~ the rail.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 14, further including ~~providing~~ a pair of hollow rails to support the pickets, passing each picket entirely through at least one of the rails, and fastening the pickets to the rails from within the rails.

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 14, ~~further including aligning all of the pickets with the rail and fastening the pickets to the rail by a substantially continuous movement of a crimping tool through the rail~~ wherein the fastening tool is a crimping tool which deforms the pickets within the rail.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[16]] 14, further including passing the ~~crimping~~ fastening tool longitudinally one way through the rail before passing the pickets laterally through the rail, and then drawing the tool back through the rail to crimp the pickets from within the rail.

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[16]] 14, further including passing the pickets laterally through the rail and then passing the ~~crimping~~ fastening tool longitudinally back and forth through the rail to [[crimp]] fasten the pickets from within the rail.

19. (Withdrawn) Apparatus for forming a fence panel including: a frame for supporting two or more rails of the panel in position to receive pickets, a fastening tool mounted on the frame in alignment or for alignment with the rails, and a tool driver that drives the tool through the rails to fasten the pickets to the rails from within the rails.

20. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 19 wherein the frame supports a panel having two parallel rails and the fastening tool has two parallel ~~crimping~~ deforming rods aligned with the rails.

21. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 20 wherein each rod of the ~~crimping~~ fastening tool has an expanded end portion that deforms the pickets within the rail.

22. (Withdrawn) Apparatus according to claim 19 wherein the driver pushes the tool through the rails before the pickets are placed in the rails and then pulls the tool back through the rails to fasten the pickets in place.

23. (Withdrawn) Apparatus according to claim 19 wherein the driver pushes and pulls the tool into and out of the rails after the pickets are in place.